keeping in touch

JANUARY 1987

News and Notes from the
Fellowship Offices
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NOVEMBER 1986

TOP 20 TITHES
(Received by December 10, 1986)

1.	MCC Dallas	Dallas, TX	$2,431.07
2.	MCC of the Resurrection	Houston, TX	1,945.13
3.	All God's Children MCC	Minneapolis, MN	1,570.51
4.	MCC in the Valley	N Hollywood, CA	1,391.27
5.	MCC of the Pomona Valley	Ontario, CA	1,312.30
6.	MCC Washington DC	Washington, DC	1,247.39
7.	MCC Long Beach	Long Beach, CA	1,246.63
8.	Church of Holy Spirit MCC	Ft Lauderdale, FL	1,168.63
9.	St. Luke's MCC	Jacksonville, FL	918.85
10.	MCC San Antonio	San Antonio, TX	857.07
11.	Agape MCC Ft Worth	Ft Worth, TX	802.16
12.	MCC San Francisco	San Francisco, CA	789.58
13.	MCC of Greater St. Louis	St Louis, MO	770.75
14.	MCC of the Disciples	Washington, DC	710.55
15.	King of Peace MCC	St Petersburg, FL	692.98
16.	River City MCC	Sacramento, CA	681.79
17.	Good News MCC	Lakeland, FL	659.34
18.	MCC Detroit	Detroit, MI	614.28
19.	MCC Portland	Portland, OR	589.56
20.	MCC New York	New York, NY	545.07

NOVEMBER 1986

TOP 20 PER CAPITA
(Received by December 10, 1986)

1.	Good News MCC	Lakeland, FL	61.05
2.	Trinity MCC	New York, NY	51.97
3.	MCC of the Pomona Valley	Ontario, CA	29.23
4.	MCC Richmond	Richmond, VA	28.23
5.	Diablo Valley MCC	Concord, CA	25.46
6.	MCC Edmonton	Alberta, CANADA	25.29
7.	MCC of Acadiana	Lafayette, LA	24.38
8.	Oasis MCC	Phoenix, AZ	22.38
9.	MCC of the Harvest	Bakersfield, CA	21.37
10.	MCC San Jose	San Jose, CA	18.24
11.	MCC Hawaii	Honolulu, HI	17.33
12.	MCC Ottawa	Ontario, CANADA	17.04
13.	MCC of the Disciples	Washington, DC	16.15
14.	MCC San Antonio	San Antonio, TX	16.08
15.	MCC Baltimore	Baltimore, MD	15.98
16.	MCC of the Spirit	Harrisburg, PA	15.28
17.	Key West MCC	Key West, FL	15.26
18.	All Faiths MCC	San Diego, CA	14.96
19.	Good Samaritan MCC	Whittier, CA	14.91
20.	MCC of the Palms	Ft Myers, FL	14.78

FFO FALL REPORT

The FFO (Faith Fellowship and Order) Commission convened in Dallas, Texas August 12-17, 1986. Twenty-five representatives from throughout our worldwide MCC Fellowship gathered for a spirit-filled meeting of sharing, worshiping, networking, and doing theology together. Highlights of the meeting were reports from districts, assessment of the workshops, "What Is Spirituality?" and "Vocabularies of Sexuality", and training in the Lenten Study Series on Aids. All workshop materials are now available in each District. Please contact your FFO representative. Election of a Steering Committee concluded the meeting. Co-Chairs elect are the Reverend Clarence Crossman, London, Ontario and the Reverend Janet Pierce, Nashville, Tennessee. Other Steering Committee members are: Chair, the Reverend Jennie Boyd-Bull, Baltimore, Maryland; Erik Browning, Portsmouth, Virginia; and Communication Coordinator, Sylvia Hodgins, Dallas, Texas.

CCCC SURVEY REMINDER

Clergy and lay leaders who have not yet returned the CCCC questionnaire on ordination/licensure requirements and process are urged to do so. An additional copy of the survey may be obtained by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope (business size) to: Jeffrey Pulling, Box 820, West Hartford, CT 06107.

LENTEN SERIES SENT TO EACH CHURCH

RESURRECTION POSSIBILITIES: Claiming New Life in the Experience of Grief, Loss, and Death

This is the 1987 Lenten Study/Dialogue Series developed by FFO member Rev. Bob Hogg for use in local MCC's. One free copy is being sent to every church from the Fellowship offices. Additional copies may be ordered for $5 US from Samaritan Extended Studies, Box 820, West Hartford, CT 06107.

INCOME TAX BOOK FOR MINISTERS

Worth Tax Service has developed a unique service and has enjoyed being able to prepare tax returns by mail or in person for ministers from all over the world. Their book, "Income Tax Law For Ministers and Religious Workers" is available for the low price of $4.95 from Worth Tax Service, 502 S. Buffalo, Box 725, Winona Lake, Indiana 46590. The $4.95 price will be discounted 40% for quanity orders.

PRAISES

Praise God! The Mid-Atlantic District has designated $1137.58 to World Church Extension for the work in Nigeria. Thank you for such a generous gift of love.

PRAYERS

Prayers for Rev. Bonnie Daniel and her family as her Mother passed away on December 8, 1986 in Las Vegas, Nevada of cancer.

Prayers for the Family and Friends of Bob Cambell, a long time member of the Fellowship, who died on Jan. 2nd. Bob first joined MCC Los Angeles within a year of its founding.

Prayers for all of our Churches and families everywhere as we begin a new year. Prayers for growth, strength and abundance for all of us.

COMPILATION OF FFO RESOURCES

The FFO Notebook is a 200-page compilation of Faith, Fellowship and Order materials and resources, including Introducing FFO, Purpose of FFO, History of FFO, Structure of FFO, Workshops Toward a Christian Theology of Sexuality, Ecumenical Resources, Aids Resources, Working Papers, and Additional Resources. Copies of this notebook are available from Samaritan Extended Studies, Box 820, West Hartford, CT 06107 for $30 US. Orders must be prepaid.

SAFE SEX SYMBOL

(from GOOD NEWS, Newsletter of Trinity Metropolitan Community Church, New York)

Healthy sexual practices are a serious topic of discussion for the gay community. To be honest, some of us, even MCC'ers, have become downright resistant to safe sex guidelines. We must begin to promote healthier sex and affirm that sex can still be pleasurable and exciting. We have a responsibility to protect one another while enjoying our sexuality. There are many pleasures available to us as sexual beings; Aids should not deter us, as long as we "play it safe." If there were a symbol for healthy sex, you could turn to a person wearing it and ask what those pleasures are for the person.

After surveying the community in New York City, the Gay Men's Health Crisis has adopted the safety pin as our symbol of safer sex. Wear it for others! Wear it for yourself! Remember that you do not have to deprive yourself of sex. Wear a safety pin to promote safer sexual practices and to say "I am concerned about your health."

CHURCH NAME CHANGE

Our Church in Copenhagen, Denmark has changed their name from Aben Kirkegruppe MCC to Markens Liljer/MCC. Their new name means: The lilies of the field.

WORLD HEALING DAY

On December 31, 1986 each individual was presented with an opportunity to participate simultaneously in a non-denominational, non-political, hour long planetary healing, held in all parts of the globe.

The healing vigil will be on-going and sustained as the citizens of the world join together for one hour on the last day of each month hereafter at noon Greenwich time (4 am Pacific time). Millions of individuals will participate in this confirmation of love, forgiveness and understanding. The idea of this vigil is to have as many people as possible at the same time all over the world, pray, think about or meditate on the harmony of all life on Earth.

HONOR ROLL

The Fellowship Offices would like to honor and give recognition to the Churches that submitted their Fellowship Tithes on or before the 10th of every month for 1986:

All God's Children MCC, Minn/St. Paul, MN
Markens Liljer MCC, DENMARK
MCC du Quebec ECM, CANADA
MCC Mt. Vernon, Mt. Vernon, WA
MCC Portland, Portland, OR

GENERAL CONFERENCE XIII

Information and registration forms for General Conference XIII will be mailed out the first week in January. If you do not receive a copy, and wish information on the conference please write or call the Fellowship Office and ask for Nancy Fackrell-Allen.

CCCC NEWS

Rev. Claudia Vierra has resigned as of 12/31/86 as the Chair of the CCCC, after 3½ years of service as chair. She will remain a member of the CCCC. Claudia and her spouse, Rev. Yolanda Allen are moving to Guerneville, CA (Russian River) to manage a resort on the river. They have plans to purchase a retreat center in that area late next year. Claudia will be on a Sabbatical next year. Ms. Donna Gordon will be staffing the CCCC at its present location and hours (Weds-Fri, 11-5). The Executive Committee of the CCCC will be meeting the second week in January to make interim plans for the administration of the CCCC. Questions regarding this can be addressed to any member of the Executive Committee, (Rev.'s Cisneros-Hunt, Martin, Gilbert or Jordan) Applications for licensure, relicensure, and ordination are due March 1st. Manuals and applications can be obtained from the CCCC office: 5300 Santa Monica Blvd., #324, Los Angeles, CA 90029, (213) 469-7894.

CORRECTION: Michael Totten-Reid, UFMCC Receptionist, wasn't here to sign our Christmas greeting, however, he still sends his love and blessings for 1987.